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Brown, have issued a treatise which is of special value to the student of alphabets of standard forms. Primarily the work is designed for the use of specialists, and its pages are largely devoted to copious illustrations of different kinds of letters. The author has included over two hundred illustrative examples, and has purposely minimized his discussion of the evolution of the letter forms, his theory being that the examples given would tell their own story better than letterpress discussion. He, however, appends a brief chapter for the benefit of the beginner, in which he discusses the best tools with which to work and the best methods to pursue in order to obtain satisfactory results in the matter of lettering. The work fills a unique niche of its own.

✱ Students of architecture and art have long felt the need of a succinct work on composition suited to their requirements. John Vredenburg Van Pelt's "A Discussion of Composition," published by the Macmillan Company, is an eminently satisfactory manual. The book gives the substance of a course of lectures delivered at Cornell University between 1897 and 1900, and is divided into six parts. The first treats of the general laws of character in art; the second, general technical laws; and the last four have to do with applications, three and five being, respectively, theoretical discussions of decoration and plan, and four and six containing practical suggestions on the same subjects. The author disclaims originality, since, as he says, composition is the practice of art, and art is as old as humanity. The work is specifically for the student, and the principles enunciated have the double value of being sound and clearly stated.



### BOOKS RECEIVED

"Botticelli," by A. Streeter. The Macmillan Co. \$1.75.

"The Reflections of a Lonely Man," by A. C. M. A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.

"The Ward of King Canute," by Otilie A. Liljencrantz. A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.50.

"Cartoons," by John T. McCutcheon. A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.40.